

public housing residents. He has also authored language which would require a commitment from banks to make loans and services available in poor neighborhoods and underserved banking markets. He is a thoughtful and skilled lawmaker who has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I take special pride in saluting KWEISI MFUME today. In closing, I am reminded of how, a few years ago, shortly after he came to the Hill, that I invited KWEISI to a meeting with some of my constituents from Cleveland. In his speech to the group, he brought the house down by relating a story of how, as a high school student, he had been assigned the task of writing a research paper on me. We still, from time to time, get a laugh out of that story.

Mr. Speaker, KWEISI MFUME will be missed on Capitol Hill. Our loss is certainly the NAACP's gain. We salute KWEISI and look forward to working closely with him in the days ahead.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Congressman KWEISI MFUME, a remarkable man from Maryland who has served his constituents and all Americans with exceptional integrity and distinction. KWEISI MFUME is leaving the House to accept a new and exciting challenge as president and chief executive officer of the NAACP. This historic civil rights organization is indeed fortunate to have such a skilled and highly respected man at its helm.

During his tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman MFUME has emerged as a national leader and champion for the most vulnerable Americans. He has consistently been a voice of reason in Congress, never shying from the good fight. KWEISI's eloquence and advocacy for progressive cause have affected the lives of millions of Americans for the better.

So tonight, Mr. Speaker, I salute KWEISI MFUME, conqueror of kings, and wish him nothing but success in all his future endeavors.

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues today to recognize the very significant contributions that the gentleman from Maryland has made during his 9 years in the House of Representatives and to wish him great success as he begins a new and very important endeavor.

We know that Congressman MFUME's constituents in the Seventh Congressional District, who have consistently reelected him with over 80 percent of the vote, will miss his representation in the House. We also know that millions of Americans outside the seventh district, who have relied on him to give voice to their needs and aspirations, will sorely miss that voice coming from the Congress of the United States.

Throughout his tenure in the House, Representative MFUME has been a champion for the rights of those denied opportunity in this Nation, and particularly for the expansion of economic opportunity for those denied. He has been one of our most eloquent spokesman for the need for economic empowerment in the Nation's urban and minority communities, focusing his legislative efforts on minority business development.

During his 2 years as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus [CBC], Congressman MFUME energized the caucus and focused our message, culminating in major legislative

achievements in the 104th Congress. Included in those achievements were expansion of the earned-income tax credit for working families, and creation of enterprise zones to spur economic development in inner-cities. As a member of the House Banking Committee he has been an advocate for the needs of low-income housing residents and for greater responsibility on the part of financial institutions to offer services in their communities.

Representative MFUME has been an articulate, forceful, and passionate presence in the House of Representatives. All Americans will benefit as he brings these qualities to his new role as chief executive officer of the NAACP.

Congressman MFUME is uniquely suited to the task of reviving membership and reenergizing the NAACP—particularly among the Nation's African-American youth. The challenges he overcame in his own youth and the accomplishments he has achieved during a distinguished career in Congress bode well for his efforts to recruit a new generation of leaders to the cause of ensuring that all Americans share in the prosperity of this Nation.

I join my colleagues in thanking Representative MFUME for his service to the country as a Member of the House of Representatives and wish him much success as he meets his new challenge at the helm of the NAACP.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Representative KWEISI MFUME, former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, on the occasion of his leaving the House in order to head the NAACP.

During his tenure in Congress, KWEISI MFUME, who has represented Maryland's Seventh Congressional District since 1986, has displayed a strong commitment to public service and a stellar record of legislative accomplishment.

Through serving on the Banking and Financial Services Committee, Representative MFUME has been able to focus congressional attention on a variety of issues, including minority businesses, health care, and civil rights legislation.

He authored the minority contracting and employment amendments to the Financial Institutions Reform and Recovery Act, strengthened the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, and amended the Community Reinvestment Act to strengthen the protection of minority financial institutions.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in the House with Representative MFUME. Clearly, his hard work and dedication to public service have improved the lives of all Americans.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of this special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

□ 1700

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2546, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. LINDER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-456) on the resolution (H. Res. 351) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2546) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPEAKER TO DECLARE RECESSES SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. LINDER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-457) on the resolution (H. Res. 352) authorizing the Speaker to declare recesses subject to the call of the Chair from February 2, 1996, through February 26, 1996, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE—WITHDRAWAL OF INVITATION TO FRENCH PRESIDENT JACQUES CHIRAC AND NOT AGREEING TO FUTURE APPEARANCES TO ADDRESS JOINT MEETINGS OF CONGRESS BY HEADS OF STATE OF NATIONS CONDUCTING NUCLEAR TESTS

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer a privileged resolution that I noticed pursuant to rule IX yesterday, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 350

Whereas virtually every nation in the world has adhered to a moratorium on nuclear tests since September 1992;

Whereas, on June 13, 1995, President Jacques Chirac of France ended his nation's adherence to the moratorium by ordering a series of nuclear tests in the South Pacific;

Whereas France has since conducted six nuclear tests on the Pacific atolls of Moruroa and Fangataufa in French Polynesia;

Whereas France has acknowledged that radioactive materials from some of the tests have leaked into the ocean;

Whereas, as a result of the tests, the people of the Pacific are extremely concerned about the health and safety of those who live near the test sites, as well as the adverse environmental effects of the tests on the region;

Whereas, in conducting the tests, France has callously ignored world-wide protests and global concern;